

CONSTANTINE

Village council delays discussion of assault-weapon ban

By Angie Birdsall

Special to the Journal

Constantine Village Council is studying a proposal to ban assault weapons. No mention was made at a meeting Tuesday if there is a problem with such weapons within the village.

Trustee Gary Mathers conducted the meeting, in the absence of president Pat Weiss.

Mark Honeysett, village manager and police chief, said in a memo that Weiss provided literature in the council packet for the council to review. Weiss will be absent for the next two council meetings.

Weiss is not asking the council to take action at this time, Honeysett said.

"She is asking you to review this literature with an eye toward banning such weapons in the village to serve as a message to our state senator and representative," he said.

He believes Weiss intends to discuss the topic at the regular meeting Jan. 18.

Other village council news:

Insurance contract approved; new police officer welcomed.

Region, A3.

A 10-year ban on assault weapons was passed by the U.S. Congress and signed into law by President Bill Clinton on Sept. 13, 1994.

Multiple attempts were made to renew the ban, but none succeeded.

Under the ban, the definition of a semi-automatic assault rifle included specific models and other fire arms that possess two or more of these features: folding or telescoping stock, pistol grip, bayonet mount, flash suppressor and grenade launcher mount, and a barrel shroud safety feature to prevent burns to the operator.